

Senate Bill 32

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Kirk of the 13th, Butler of the 55th, Payne of the 54th, Orrock of the 36th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

To amend Chapter 1 of Title 51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to torts, so as to limit civil liability for property damage caused by the rescue or attempted rescue of animals locked in motor vehicles; to provide for conditions for applicability of such civil immunity; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 1 of Title 51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to torts, is amended by revising Code Section 51-1-29, relating to liability of persons rendering emergency care, to read as follows:

"51-1-29.

(a) Any person, including any person licensed to practice medicine and surgery pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 and any person licensed to render services ancillary thereto, who in good faith renders emergency care at the scene of an accident or emergency to the victims thereof without making any charge therefor shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result of any act or omission by such person in rendering emergency care or as a result of any act or failure to act to provide or arrange for further medical treatment or care for the injured person. As used in this ~~Code section~~ subsection, the term 'emergency care' shall include, but shall not be limited to, the rescue or attempted rescue of an incapacitated or endangered individual from a locked motor vehicle.

(b) Any person who in good faith rescues or attempts to rescue an incapacitated or endangered animal from a locked motor vehicle shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result of property damage caused thereby or as a result of any act or failure to act to provide or arrange for further medical treatment or care for the animal.

25 (c) Upon assisting the animal, if such person accesses or assists in accessing the 9-1-1
26 system or otherwise contacts or assists in contacting law enforcement and awaits the arrival
27 of emergency services, the immunity from civil damages provided in subsection (b) of this
28 Code section shall apply."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.